**ACT Question of the Day – Thursday, December 12, 2013**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **Philosophy and Baseball**       In the fall of 1967, the Boston Red Sox were playing in the World Series. I was a freshman at a |
| university that was located in the Midwest at the time, enrolled in a philosophy course that met at two in the afternoon. The course was taught by a native Bostonian. He wanted to watch the games on television, but he was too responsible to cancel class. So he conducted classes, those October afternoons, while actually listening to the games on a small transistor radio propped up inside his lectern, the volume turned down so that only he could hear. |
| http://www.act.org/qotd/wp-content/images/english/images2/2.gif Baseball is unique among |
| American sports by its ability to appeal to a |
| love resembling that of a child of fable and legend. Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio, Roberto Clemente—names like these will echo through |
| time that are trumpet calls to storied battles fought |
| and won in ages past. http://www.act.org/qotd/wp-content/images/english/images2/6.gifWhen Hank Aaron |
| stretched out a sinewy arm to pull one down,  striding up to a rack of ash-hewn bats, he became a |
| modern-day knight selecting their lance. And when glints of the afternoon sun shone off Mickey |
| Mantle's colossal bat, there will have to be seen for one brief, stirring moment the glimmer of the jewels in King Arthur's own mighty sword, Excalibur. |
| So there he stood, that learned professor of |
| mine, lecturing about the ideas, that have engaged people's minds for centuries. Then he'd interrupt himself to announce, with smiling eyes, that the Sox had taken a two-to-nothing lead. Here was a |
| man who's mind was disciplined |
| inside his schoolbook to contemplate the collected wisdom of the ages—and he was behaving like a boy with a contraband comic opened. On those warm October days, as |
| the afternoon sun dances and plays on the domes and spires of the university, the philosophers |
| had to stand aside, for the professor's imagination had transported him to the Boston of his youth. |

Which of the following sentences, if added at box #6, would most effectively lead the reader from the generalization in the preceding sentence to the specific examples that follow?

[**F.**](http://www.act.org/qotd/#eng_06f) These heroes of baseball embodied the ancient legends, bringing them to life.  
[**G.**](http://www.act.org/qotd/#eng_06g) Baseball, of course, is not the only sport that provides heroes.  
[**H.**](http://www.act.org/qotd/#eng_06h) Those battles lasted for nine innings, unless a tie led to extra innings.  
[**J.**](http://www.act.org/qotd/#eng_06j) The truly great thing about it is that these men are as human as you or I.

**Correct!**

**The best answer is F**. The sentence that precedes the proposed insertion is a general one about legendary battles. The sentences that follow the proposed insertion give specific examples of the actions of individual baseball players that seem heroic. Choice F is the only sentence to make reference to both ideas and, thus, serve as an effective bridge between them. The other choices fail to connect logically the different ideas. Choice G does not work because it signals a shift to a discussion of heroes in other sports (a shift that does not occur). While Choice H does make reference to the information in the preceding sentence, the proposed sentence has nothing to do with the examples that follow and, thus, cannot serve as an effective transition. Choice J would be an illogical addition. Although Choice J could logically follow the preceding sentence and the words "these men" could refer to the men mentioned in the specific examples that follow, the following sentences are about how much certain players resemble mythological heroes, not how similar they are to average people.

**Incorrect**

**Incorrect**

**Incorrect**